

tapered section 96, and an enlarged proximal portion 98 for receiving the pledget. The side port 94 of the delivery catheter 90 is arranged to deliver the pledget through the side port 74 of the cannula 72. Accordingly, the catheter side port 94 is preferably the same size or smaller than the side port 74 of the cannula 72. The delivery catheter 90 also includes a proximal fitting 100 for connection to a syringe and an indexing element 102. The indexing element 102 engages with the indexing wheel 82 on the cannula 72 to align the side ports 74, 94 of the cannula and catheter. Alternatively, alignment may be performed by aligning a marker on the catheter 90 with a corresponding marker on the cannula, 72. Another system for alignment of the cannula 72 and the delivery catheter may include one or more detents and corresponding recesses or grooves in the shafts of the cannula and catheter. In the alternative, the outer surface of the catheter 90 could be configured to engage the inner surface of the cannula 72 to resist relative movement or displacement between the catheter 90 and the cannula 72. --

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 7 and 24 as follows:

7. (Once Amended) A system for injecting a sponge into tissue, the system comprising:

a catheter having a closed distal end and a side port adjacent the distal end for delivering a pledget of sponge material in a hydrated state to the tissue;

an adaptor connected to the catheter for hydrating and delivering the pledget to the catheter, the adaptor having a tapered lumen with a large diameter proximal end and a